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THE ANDHRA PRADESH GAZETTE

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PART VII EXTRAORDINARY

No.18

AMARAVATI, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

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NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

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A.P. STATE ELECTION COMMISSION

1st Floor, New HODs Building, M.G. Road, Vijayawada-520010.

NOTIFICATION

No. 30/SEC-B2/2021

Date: 03.02.2021

WHEREAS, the State Election Commission issued Notifications on 23.01.2021, 25.01.2021 and 28.01.2021 for conduct of Ordinary Elections to Gram Panchayats in the State in 4 Phases;

AND WHEREAS, the State Election Commission increased the hours of polling and fixed the polling time from 6.30 AM to 3.30 PM to observe precautions/measures like social distancing, etc., due to COVID pandemic situation and notified the same in the Election Schedule appended as Annexure-I to the said Notifications;

AND WHEREAS, the Collector and District Election Authority, East Godavari in his Letter No.H4/109/2020, dtd.02.02.2021 requested the State Election Commission to change the closing time of poll from 03.30 PM to 01.30 PM in 7 Mandals of Rampachodavaram Revenue Division, i.e., (1) Rampachodavaram, (2) Devipatnam, (3) Maredumilli, (4) Addateegala, (5) Y.Ramavaram, (6) Gangavaram (Agency) and (7) Rajavommangi and 4 Mandals of Yetapaka Revenue Division, i.e., (1) Yatapaka, (2) Vararamachandrapuram, (3) Kunavaram and (4) Chinturu, scheduled for poll in Phase-III on 17.02.2021 stating that all the Polling Stations in the above said Mandals are Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected areas with huge network inaccessibility and it is not advisable to hold elections till 03.30 PM due to prevailing Maoist menace in the area;

AND WHEREAS, the State Election Commission after careful examination of the matter, decided to fix the closing of poll at 1.30 PM, instead of 3.30 PM, in 7 Mandals of Rampachodavaram Division and 4 Mandals of Yatapaka Division, scheduled for polling on 17.02.2021 in Phase-III for the security reasons expressed by the Collector and District Election Authority, East Godavari;

NOW, THEREFORE, the State Election Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred under Article 243K of the Constitution of India, Section 200(1), Section 201-A(1), sub-sec.(2) of Section 13 and sub-sec.(2) of Section 14 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 (Act 13 of 1994), the State Election Commission, Andhra Pradesh, hereby, changes the closing time of poll from 3:30 PM to 1:30 PM in respect of 7 Mandals of Rampachodavaram Revenue Division, i.e., (1) Rampachodavaram, (2) Devipatnam, (3) Maredumilli, (4) Addateegala, (5) Y.Ramavaram, (6) Gangavaram (Agency) and (7) Rajavommangi and 4 Mandals of Yetapaka Revenue Division, i.e., (1) Yatapaka, (2) Vararamachandrapuram, (3) Kunavaram and (4) Chinturu, scheduled for poll in Phase-III on 17.02.2021 for the security concerns expressed by the Collector & District Election Authority, East Godavari. As a consequence thereof, the State Election Commission re-notifies the schedule of poll and the subsequent activities in respect of the Gram Panchayats located in the above said Mandals as indicated below.

1.	Conduct of Poll	17.02.2021 (From 6.30 AM to 1.30 PM)
2.	Counting of Votes	17.02.2021 (From 2.00 PM onwards)
3.	Declaration of Results	Soon after the completion of counting of votes
4.	(a) Date of conduct of election of Upa-Sarpanch under Section 14 (10) of A.P. Panchayat Raj, 1994.	On the same date on which results are declared.
	(b) If for any reason, the election of Upa-Sarpanch is not held on the date aforesaid, it shall be held on the next day, whether or not it is a holiday observed by the Gram Panchayat.	

Wide publicity shall be given by the District Administration of East Godavari District in the polling areas concerned in order to ensure that the change in the closing time of poll and other subsequent events are known to the voters in those areas.

The State Election Commission hereby directs the Collectors and District Election Authorities of other Districts to send proposals to the Commission on similar requests for change of closing time in the areas infested with Maoist activities so that necessary notifications will be issued.

Vijayawada,
12.2.2021.

Dr.N.Ramesh Kumar
State Election Commissioner